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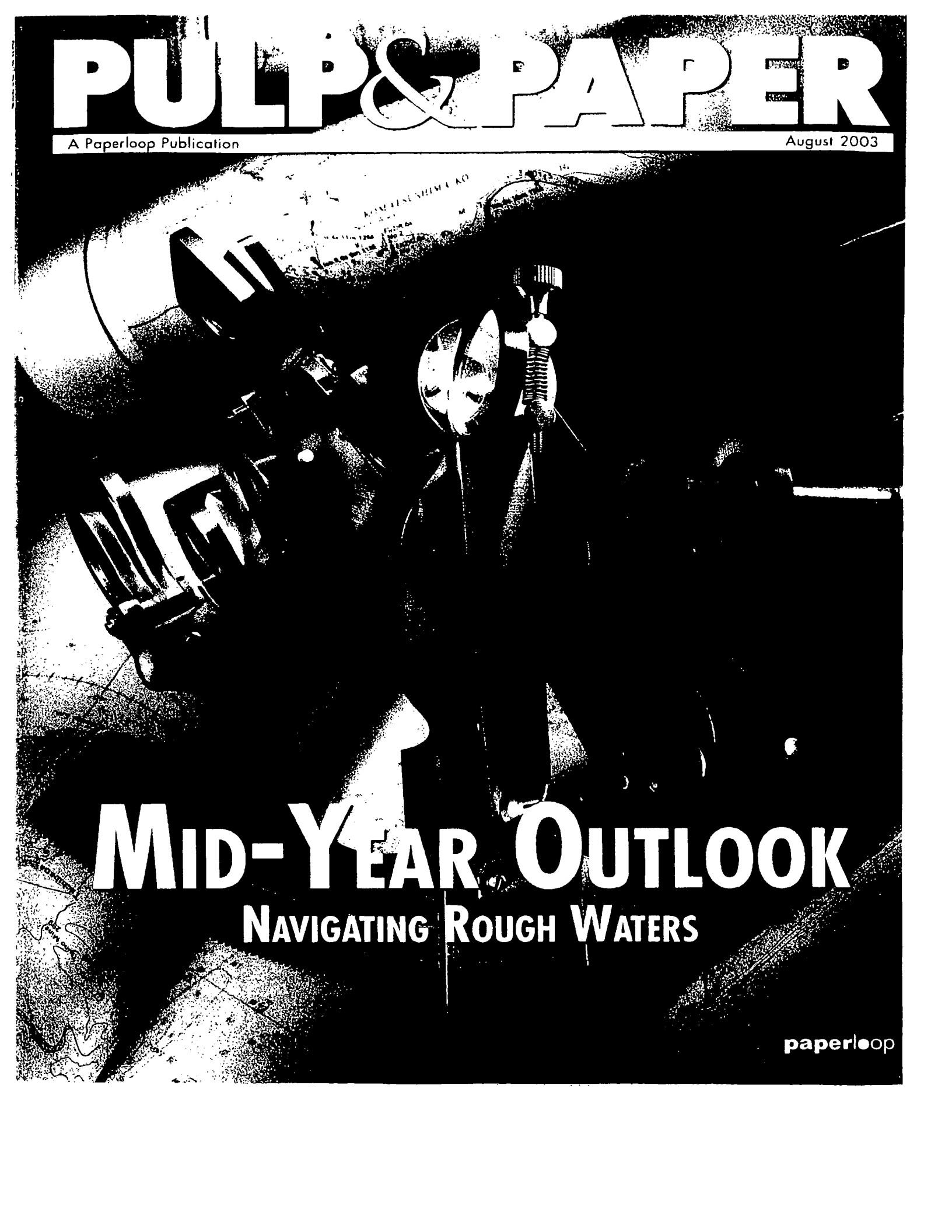
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PULP & PAPER

A Paperloop Publication

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MID-YEAR OUTLOOK

NAVIGATING ROUGH WATERS

paperloop

August 2003

MAINTAINING MILLS A SPECIAL TECHNOLOGY REPORT



Doctor blades

Esco offers a full line of high-performance doctor blades that can increase productivity and save mills money. Esco blades include various metal alloys, plastics, abrasive blades, and the Fiberline family of products. Esco's synthetic blades include several premium epoxy-based fiberglass and carbon fiber products, which have been developed to meet specific needs by the company's in-house laminating division. Fiberline AC and Fiberline AC3 carbon fiber doctor blades are designed to improve blade life, reduce roll wear, and reduce maintenance costs.

Esco Inc.

www.escoincorporated.com



Blade holder

Esco's ETUniform blade holder provides uniform blade pressure along the entire length of the holder. This provides even cross-machine blade loading on the roll, which results in highly efficient doctoring. The ETUniform holder consists of a heavy-duty, extruded mounting base assembly that is precisely machined and a double pressure plate assembly for long service life and durability. All metal components and fasteners are 316L stainless steel. Esco's investment-cast blade retainers minimize maintenance and are intended to extend pneumatic tube life.

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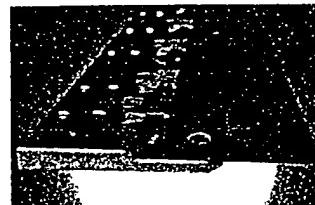


Blade holder

The RJGIII holder is a rigid holder made with a 316L stainless steel top plate and 316L cast stainless steel blade retainers that include a proprietary release coating agent. The RJGIII holder is designed for use in applications where foreign particle buildup occurs inside conventional holders, which can cause difficult blade changes. The open design of this holder is formulated to minimize surface area for buildup, simplifying blade changes and reducing holder maintenance. The RJGIII holder can be supplied with new doctors or easily retrofitted on virtually any existing doctor.

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Double doctors for suction rolls

Mills can improve their moisture profile, sheet consistency and production efficiency with Esco TwinFlex double doctors for couch rolls, suction rolls, and blind drilled rolls. A double doctor is also intended to extend roll life and reduce roll maintenance costs. TwinFlex doctors use the efficient ETUniform blade holder and can run either standard doctor blades or a foil blade in the lead position. Depending on machine configuration, a TwinFlex doctor can often be designed to also function as a save-all pan, reducing capital expenditures.

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